

http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/

You have received a letter from the National Visa Center (NVC) scheduling an appointment for you to come to the American Consulate in Guayaquil and formally apply for an immigrant visa. All members of your family immigrating with you must appear for the appointment. **This** information packet contains 8 pages; please read the entire packet carefully.

- ➤ If you cannot keep your scheduled visa appointment, you may contact our Visa Information Service 1-800-010-145 (from Ecuador) or 1-800-919-5290 (from the United States) to schedule a new interview date.
- No assurance can be given in advance that a visa will be issued on the day of interview. The applicant is advised to **NOT** make any travel arrangements, purchase airline tickets, dispose of any property, or give up employment until the applicant receives the visa.
- The visas are affixed inside each passport and the applicant is given a sealed envelope which should be hand carried, **UNOPENED**, to the United States and submitted to the immigration inspector at the U.S. port-of-entry.

** Additional Documentation Requirements **

You are responsible for ensuring that all required documents are available at the time of the interview. While you may have previously submitted the majority of required documents to the NVC, there are additional documents that you need to bring with you to your interview. **Failure to bring all required documentation to the interview will result in a delay in visa issuance or a visa refusal.** Please review this information carefully and acquire if needed for your visa interview.

<u>Original Birth and Marriage Certificates:</u> If born or married in Ecuador, we will only accept hand-written certificates that are direct copies from the book of the Civil Registry Office and that have the official seal. (*Please see document sample in pages 4-5*). We <u>do not</u> accept computerized or typed forms.

<u>Original Divorce Certificate:</u> If previous marriages were executed in Ecuador, you must bring the marriage certificate as described above with the annotation of the divorce. (*Please see document sample in page 6*). If they were executed in another country, please bring the divorce decree with the court's original stamp.

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<u>Police Record:</u> Records must be obtained from all the countries where you have lived more than 6 months since the age of 16. Applicants under the age of 18 cannot obtain a police record from Ecuador. Do not bring a police record from the United States.

<u>Medical Examination:</u> All the information pertaining to the medical examination can be found in: http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/info/info_3739.html

<u>U.S. visas previously issued:</u> If you have obtained any type of U.S. non-immigrant visa (for example, tourist visas, student visas, work visas, etc.) you must bring those with you to your interview.

Evidence of relationship: If your status as an intending immigrant depends upon a relationship established between an alien and a United States citizen or legal permanent resident, please be prepared to present suitable documentation to establish the bona-fides of that relationship at the time of your immigrant visa interview. The type of documentation you present will depend on your particular circumstances. Failure to present satisfactory documentation may delay issuance of your immigrant visa.

- Marital relationship: Unfortunately, we have found that there is a great deal of fraud involved in marriages or fiancée visas, which confer immigration benefits. This high level of fraud makes it imperative that we see concrete evidence to support your claim to a visa based on marriage or engagement. In the past, the following types of documentation have proven helpful in the adjudication of any of these visa cases:
- ✓ Photos from you and your spouse taken before, during and after the marriage.
- ✓ Birth certificates of any children born of the marriage.
- ✓ Correspondence exchanged between you and your spouse (letters, e-mails).
- ✓ Telephone bills with calls from the petitioner to the visa beneficiary.
- ✓ Copy of passport pages from any trips your spouse has taken to visit you, along with the biographic page.
- ✓ Life and medical insurance policies indicating beneficiaries.
- ✓ Evidence of joint bank and credit accounts.
- ✓ Any other convincing documentation that shows that you and your petitioning spouse have or will have a joint residence and have formed an economic and material union. These may include but are not limited to, Lease/Mortgage held jointly, Utility Bills, Evidence of Joint Accounts, Rent Receipts, etc.

Note: You are not required to bring all of these documents. Please bring any evidence you feel convincingly shows that you are in an ongoing relationship.

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- <u>Child, Parent, or Sibling relationship:</u> Birth certificates alone do not establish biological relationships. If your visa application is based on a relationship with a child, parent, or sibling you may wish to bring:
- ✓ Hospital Records
- ✓ Baptismal Certificates
- ✓ School Records
- ✓ Childhood Immunization Records
- ✓ Bank Statement or other financial records
- ✓ Court Reports
- ✓ Correspondence exchanged (letters, e-mails)
- ✓ Photographs taken over a period of years of yourself and your relative
- ✓ Telephone bills with calls from the petitioner to the beneficiary

Generally these documents should cover the span of several years. If you do not have any of the evidence listed above, the consular officer may recommend DNA testing. DNA testing must be supervised and authorized by this office.

• <u>Step-child relationship:</u> All step-child visa categories should bring evidence of relationship between the step-parent and the biological parent to the interview. If your visa application is based on a step-child relationship you may wish to bring the documents listed under *Marital relationship*.

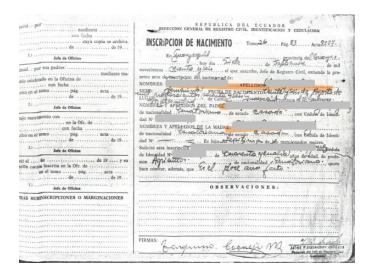
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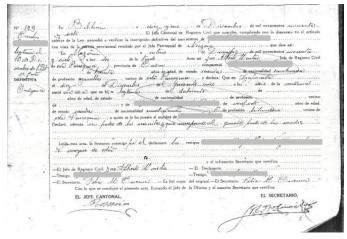


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• Ecuadorian Birth Certificate Sample - ACCEPTED document

<u>Characteristics:</u> Issued by the Ecuadorian Civil Registry. The document must be a direct copy from the records book. It must be the hand written copy. The document has an official seal from the Civil Registry.





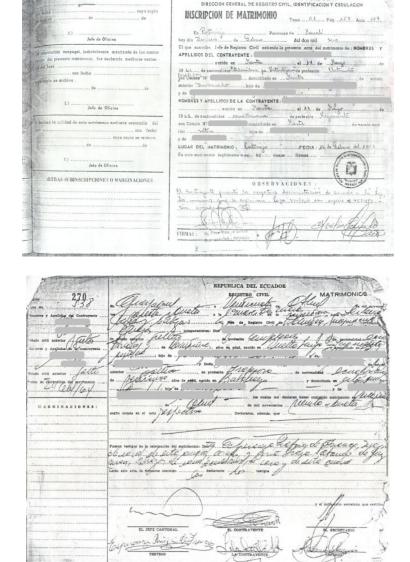
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• Ecuadorian Marriage Certificate Sample - ACCEPTED document

<u>Characteristics:</u> Issued by the Ecuadorian Civil Registry. The document must be a direct copy from the records book. It must be the hand written copy. The document has an official seal from the Civil Registry.



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• Ecuadorian Divorce Certificate Sample - <u>ACCEPTED</u> document

<u>Characteristics:</u> It must be the marriage certificate as describe below with the annotation or amendment of the divorce on the left side of the document.



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This Consulate does <u>NOT</u> accept this type of document



<u>NOTE:</u> If you are not able to get a direct copy from the Civil Registry because the books are lost or have suffered any damage you must bring a letter from your local Civil Registry office including the reasons why they couldn't provide you a direct copy. You must also bring a direct copy of your birth/marriage/divorce certificate from the National Files' books from the Civil Registry's main office in Quito.

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Prohibited Items

The Consular Section is implementing new security procedures to speed interview processing. In order to minimize the amount of time applicants have to wait in line before their interview; the American Consulate General will prohibit applicants from entering the building with anything other than the documents they need for their application.

Applicants should make arrangements before coming to the American Consulate General, so that the only things they have with them when they arrive are their documents. Purses, bags, suitcases, backpacks, cellular phones, cigarettes, lighters, matches, food or beverages, photographic or video devices, radios, computers, nail trimmers, scissors and weapons will not be permitted to be entered to this Consulate.

Limited baby supplies will still be admitted.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL DELAY YOUR VISA APPLICATION

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